(b) The discussions held by the delegation centred around briefing the US Government and industry about India's industrial, fiscal and trade policy changes for strengthening institutional links between the two countries, to promote US participation in India's development through investment, joint ventures, technology transfer and sourcing of software, components and equipment form India. The visit was only exploratory in nature.

(c) The visit helps promote economic and trade ties between the two countries.

[*Translation*]

Effect of External and Internal Loans and Trade Deficit on Growth Rate

4911. SHRI RAM SHARAN YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the growth rate is likely to decline owing to heavy loan repayments and foreign exchange deficit;

(b) the estimated trade deficit during 1991–92 and the amount of internal and external loans to be repaid together with interest thereon; and

(c) the likely decline in the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSITRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The impact of repayment of loans on the growth rate of the country is expected to be marginal because borrowing is being kept under strict limit. The foreign exchange shortage could have an adverse effect upon growth if it is not alleviated by measures to strengthen export performance. However, the government proposes to tackle the foreign exchange shortage by a vigorous export drive so that our growth targets are not jeopardised.

The trade deficit during 1991–92 would depend on our export performance and the level of imports we can maintain keeping in view our foreign exchange reserve position. However, it is expected that current year's trade deficit would be lower compared to the last year's trade deficit at Rs. 15,142 crores. The extent of internal and external borrowing including interest payments as estimated for 1991–92 is as follows:

(Rs. crores)

	Net borrowing	*Interest payment*
Internal	38,545	24,770
External *	4,224	2,702

* Includes external assistance on both Government and non–Government accounts.

Booth Capturing Rigging and other Irregularities during Recent Bye–Election

4912. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRI P.C THOMAS:
SHRI DATTA TRAYA BANDARU:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI M.V.V. S. MURTHY:
SHRI LALIT ORAON:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of incidents of booth–capturing, rigging, violence and other irregularities took place during the recent bye–elections.

(b) if so, the details thereof, constituency–wise;

(c) the number of booths where repolling was conducted, constituency–wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to prevent such incidents;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b). A statement showing cases of malpractices resulting in repoll or adjourned poll during the countermanded/bye–elections held on 16th November, 1991 is laid on the Table of the House. It is not possible to furnish information in respect of incidents that did not warrant a repoll as it is not complied by the Election Commission of India.

(c) A repoll was ordered at all polling stations, mentioned, in the statement, except polling station numbers 163 to 165, 167 and 169 to 175 in the 23 Cuddapah Lok Sabha Constituency where the poll was adjourned.

(d) to (f). The Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill, 1990 contains certain provisions to prevent such incidents. However comprehensive proposals in this regard will be considered by the Government as a part of the indepth study of entire gamut of electoral reforms.

STATEMENT

Statement Showing Cases of Poll Malpractices Committed during the Countermanded/Bye-Elections held on 16.11.1991

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
		ANDHRA PRADESH	
1.	23-Cuddapah P.C. 154-Cuddapah Assembly segment	7,8,9,12,13	Poured water in the polled ballotbox and tore ballot papers.
		10	Poured Acid in two boxes and burnt.
		11,118,119,120	Ballot papers snatched away
		99,99A, 100, 100A	A mob made rigging another mob poured water.
		117	Polling agent of TDP Party Party poured water into ballot boxes and sped away.
		130	A mob made rigging. The TDP agent poured water.
		131	Tampered with paper seal of ballot box and poured water. Diary of the Presiding officer torn.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
		140	A mob made rigging, Another mob poured water.
		146, 147	Poured mud water.
		163, 164	Poured water in polled ballot boxes
		178, 179	Marked copy of electoral roll ballot papers have been torn and ballot baxes tampered.
2.	23-Cuddapah P.C. 155-Badvel assembly segment	68, 70	Water and ink poured into the ballot boxes.
	—do—	80	Ballot boxes snatched and thrown in a well.
	—do—	163,164,165, 167, 169, 170, 171,172, 173, 174. & 175	Polling parties could not reach the polling stations in time due to cyclone and heavy rains. The rivulets between Kamasamudram and vemalur were in spate and the polling personnel could not cross the rivulets and reach the polling stations within prescribed time.
3.	166-Penukonda A.C.	64, 65 & 66	Unidentified miscreants entered into the polling staton around 12 noon and poured liquid and pil into the polled ballot boxes.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
		ASSAM	
5.	Badarpur Assembly Constituency	18, 67, 80, 82, 87, 89	Miscreants snatched away ballot papers, marked them and inserted them in the ballot box.
		BIHAR	
1.	49-Patepur A.C.	129	Polled ballot boxes taken out from custody of polling officer by some antisocial elements
		140, 141	Firing led to stop of poll after 9.30 A.M.
2.	52- Vaishali A.C.	113, 122	Violence and murder of one person each took place near the polling station.
		115	Antisocial elements opened fire near the polling station in which several persons were injured.
		135 & 136	Bomb was blasted near the polling stations.
3.	162- Poreyahat A.C.	4	Forcible snatching of ballot boxes and signed ballot papers.
		39	Miscreants snatched 104 ballot papers stamped and put them into the ballot box.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
4.	213-Paliganj A.C.	31, 29, 22, 214	Snatching of ballot papers.
5.	213-Paliganj A.C.	35, 36	Bomb throwing and firing in the air by antisocial elements.
		229	Ballot papers forcibly polled.
6.	280-Tundi A.C.	118	Some unauthorised persons snatched away 150 ballot papers from Presiding Officer and ballot papers were torn and some ballot paper inserted in the ballot box.
		151	Anti-social elements forcibly took away both ballot boxes from Presiding Officer. They tore off some ballot boxes from Presiding Officer. They tore off some ballot papers also.
7.	310-Sisai	129, 173	Miscreants forcibly snatched and inserted some ballot papers in to the ballot box.
	18-Earh Parliamentary Constituency		
8.	199- Chandi Assembly segment	156	Ballot box snatched and tampered with.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
9.	201-Mokameh assembly segment	46	Large number of ballot papers snatched away. Marked copy of electoral roll and other material also damaged. disturbance at the booth.
	—do—	47	Large number of ballot papers snatched away, copy of electoral roll snatched away/damaged.
	—do—	48	Ballot papers with caunter foils and paper seal etc. snatched away.
	—do—	81	Polled ballot boxes thrown in a well.
	—do—	112	Ballot box tampered with. Ballot papers forcibly snatohed. Ballot papers forcibly cast and booth capturing.
	—do—	113	Ballot papers snatched. Presiding Officer compelled to sign ballot paper. Polling could not continue due to intimidaton and threat to polling personnel.
10.	201-Mokameh assembly segment	114	50 ballot papers torn by miscreants. Ballot box tampered with.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	—do—	117	The ballot papers torn. Ballot box tampered with. Polling matirials damaged. Paper seal damaged. Intimidation outside the booth.
	—do—	118	Ballot papers and electoral roll snatched away andtorn. Ballot box also tampered with.
	—do—	119	Ballot box tampered with.
	—do—	121	Disturbance at the booth. Ballot box, ballot papers and other polling materials snatched away.
	—do—	122	Ballot papers and other materials snatched and torn. Ballot box tampered with.
	—do—	123	Ballot papers, paper seals and other materials destroyed. Ballot box tempered with.
	—do—	124	Ballot box tampered wth by antisocial elements. Ballot papers also torn.
	—do—	141	Ballot papers, electoral roll and other polling materials damaged. Disturbance at the booth by antisocial elements.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	—do—	142	Ballot papers forcibly put in the ballot box. Electoral roll and other polling material snatched away.
11.	202-Barh Assembly segment	63 (Eastern side)	Polling was disturbed by anti social elements. Some ballot papers for cibly put in the ballot box.
	—do—	63 (Western side)	—do—
	—do—	133	Ballot papers snatched. Polling personel intimidated.
	—do—	138	Ballot box snatched away by miscreants during polling.
	—do—	142	—do—
	—do—	168, 169 & 170	Violence near the booth. One person killed. Three persons injured. Ballot papers snatched. Ballot box tampered with.
	—do—	182	Ballot box as well as all polling matirials snatched away by miscreants.
12.	202-Barh assembly segment	185	Ballot papers, ballot paper account and other materials destroyed. Ballot box tempered with.
	—do—	186 & 187	Ballot papers and all other materials destroyed. Ballot box tampered with.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	—do—	188	Ballot papers and other materials destroyed. Ballot box tempered with.
	—do—	210	Disturbance at the booth. Ballot papers snatched. 11 ballot papers forcibly put inside the ballot box.
13.	203-Bikhtiarpur	61	Ballot papers snatched. Ballot box tampered with.
	—do—	165	Large number of ballot papers were snatched, additional ballot papers were rushed to polling staton But nobody turned up at the booth after the incident. Ballot papers also focibly put in the ballot box.
	—do—	212	Large number of ballot papers were torn. Electoral roll was destroyed. Polling could not be carried on.
14.	204-Fatwar (SC) assembly segment	21	Disturbance by miscreants. Ballot papers torn. Ballot box tempered with.
	—do—	65	Ballot papers torn. Ballot box snatched and tampered with.
15.	199-Chandi assembly segment	102	

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	200-Harnaut assembly segment	102	Booth Capturing. Ballot papers snatched away from the Presiding Offcer and forcibly cast. Some Polling materials damaged. Ballot box tempered with.
16.	203-Bakhtiarpur assembly segment	85	Ballot papers were stuffed unauthorisedly into ballot boxes by miscreants.
17.	21-Madhepura P.C. 115-Kumarkhand	5	Polling interrupted due to altercation between two groups.
	A.C.	50, 50K, 51	There was firing between two groups about 500 yarts away from polling booths.
		84	About 150 ballot papers forcefully stamped and put in ballot boxes by a grooup of about 25 persons who took over the booth for some time. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		85	About 400 ballot papers stamped and put in ballot box forcefully by a group of about 25 outsiders. Fairness of polling doubtful.
18.	116-Singheswar A.C.	59, 60, 61, 68, 69, 65,	Poll was vitiated due to booth capturing (as reported by the central observer)

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
		65,	Some people took away forcibly ballot papers, paper seal and prevented Harijans fom voting.
		73,	Some people destroyed some ballot papers and forcefully stamped votes and put in ballot box. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		165,	Some outsider destroyed ballot papers and poll votes forcefully and in ballot box. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		166,	Threathing of polling personnel, destruction of ballot papers and forceful stamping of some votes and putting in ballot box. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		170,	The patrolling cum collecting party were given only some ballot papers by the Presiding Officeer of the booth. Polling box of the booth not available.
		171,	Forceful centing of vote and destruction of ballot papers by some people at 12.45 P.M. Presiding Officer declared the polling void and stopped poll.
		178,	Some people captured the booth for some time forcibly took away ballot papers. and manhandled and took

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
			away ballot papers. Poll was stopped and polling party moved away from there.
		180,	Forceful counting of votes at the booth. Fairness of polling doubtful.
19.	120-Machepura A.C.	19	Some votes forcefully polled. Some ballot papers snatched and left outside after stamping. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		30	A bomb thrown at the booth. Apprehension that many people abstained from casting their votes. Fairness of polling doubtful.
		65	Four persons received pellet injury in firing and one person received injury in brick batting between rival parties.
		66, 67	Booths were looted.
		178	One hundred and fifty ballot papers looted.
		227	There was clash between two groups 500 yards from booth in which three persons sustained injury.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
20.	123-Allamnagar A.C.	18,107	Some persons forcibly took ballot papers and stamped them.
		8	Some people destroyed ballot papers, ran away with voters list and threw the ballot box in water. Fairness of polling doubtful.
21.	43-Gaya (SC)P.C. 247-Belagajn Assembly Segment	38	Lootingof ballot papers and other election papers.
		85	Looting of boxes and pouring ink into to them.
		105	Looting of ballot papers.
		195	Forcibly snatching the ballot papers and putting them into ballot boxes.
22.	248-Konch Assembly Segment	196	Ballot papers locoted.
23.	249-Gaya Moffasil assembly eegment.	111, 112 & 159	Ballot papers inserted forcibly into boxes. Ballot boxes and ballot papers looted away.
24.	252-Gurua Assembly segment	17	Water poured into the ballot boxes.
		89, 90	Ballots looted

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
		189	Ballot papers forcibly inserted into the ballot boxes.
25.	253-Bodh Gaya (SC) assembly segment	24	Ballot papers forcibly inserted into the ballot boxes.
		75	Poll disrupted and polling procedure violated.
		85	Mobil/Water poured into the ball boxes.
		98	Large scale bogus voting reported.
		166	Ballot papers forcibly inserted.
26.	250-Gaya Town assembly segment		The Returning Officer recommended repoll at 48 polling stations which were seriously affected by booth capturning and exercise of franchise by voters in that assembly segment was interfered with by antisocial elements on an extensive scale (Annexure). There were 225 polling stations in that assembly segment and as many as 48 of them were badly affected by booth capturing. The serial nos. of polloing stations involved in both capturning as mentioned in annexure clearly indicated that most henous practice against the elections was not confined only to certain pockets or

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
			areas of the assembly constituency segment but was indulged in throughout the length and bradth of the assembly segment. The booth capturing on such massive scale in all parts of the assembly segment must have made its impact not only on the polling stations about which the report had been made but on the entire electorate in that assembly segment. Reports received by the Commisson from other sources corroborated the inferenoe that the poll in this assembly segment was totally vitiated. The press reports which appeared in that national and local press showed how the electoral process was held to ransom in the Gaya Town. hence repoll was ordered by the Commisson for all the 225 polling statons of 250-Gaya Town Assembly Segment.
27.	250-Gaya 2 & 3 Town assembly segment	2 & 3	Looting of ballot boxes, and snatching of ballot papers.
	—do—	5	Ballot papers snatched.
	—do—	6, 7 & 8	Water poured into the ballot boxes.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	—do—	9	Water poured into the ballot boxes and looting of ballot papers.
	—do—	17 & 18	Looting and snatching of ballot papers, Stamping forcibly and putting into the boxes.
	—do—	30, 31, 32, 37, 38, 39, 40, 50 & 51	Looting and snatohing of ballot papers, stamping and forcibly putting into the boxes.
	—do—	95, 96 99, 100, 107, 108, 109	All polling materials and ballot boxes looted away.
	—do—	110	Ballot papers snatched and acid poured in box.
	—do—	111	Ballot papers snatched.
	—do—	127, 128, 129, & 129 (k)	Ballot boses looted.
	—do—	136, 138, 139, 140, 141 & 155	Ballot boxes looted and water poured into the boxes.
28.	250-Gaya Town assembly segment	161	Boxes looted away.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
	—do—	171 (k)	Cent percent poll. Ballot papers foroibly inserted.
	—do—	177	Ballot papers forcibly inserted into the boxes.
	—do—	182	Ballot papers destroyed.
	—do—	184	Ballot papers destroyed and also forcibly inserted into the box.
	—do—	195, 200, 202 & 203	Pad and cross arrow mark snatched away polling disrupted.
	—do—	208 & 213	Ballot papers/Ballot boxes looted.
MADHYA PRADESH			
1.	55-Hatta A.C.	70, 72 and 73 Ka	Some miscreants forcibly entered into the polling booth No. 70, 72 and 73 Ka and snatched away some of the ballot papers. The Presiding officers of these booth have reported that after stamping these ballot the miscreants put some of the ballot box and went away with the rest of them. The identity of the snatched ballot papers could not be established. The Commisson ordered re-poll at these three polling booths.

Sl. No.	No. & Name of constituency	No. of Polling station	Reasons for poll being vitiated malpractices committed
1	2	3	4
2.	89-Premnagar (ST)		The ballot papers numbering 67507 to 67529 i.e. 23 in number snatched inserted wrongly n the ballot box by some miscreants and can be identified and rejected at the time of counting. Re-poll was not considered necessary in this polling station.